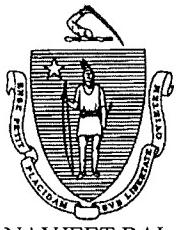


Exhibit 7



NAVJEET BAL
COMMISSIONER

JOSEPH J. McDERMOTT
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Revenue
Audit Division – Multistate Bureau
PO Box 40
Steubenville, OH 43952
Telephone (617) 887-7771

January 6, 2010

Angel Williams
Circuit City Stores, Inc.
PO Box 5695
Glen Allen, VA 23058

RE: CORPORATION EXCISE TAX AUDIT
TAXABLE PERIOD: 3/1/06 through 2/29/08

Recently this office conducted an audit for the above period. I have reviewed the proposed adjustments and concur with those findings, which are as follows:

- The corporation's prior transfer of its intangibles has been disregarded due to the lack of a valid, good-faith business purpose other than tax avoidance and also economic substance. To eliminate the effects of the transfer, for each taxable year, the following adjustments have been made per MGL c.62C, s.3A and c.63, s.30.4, 31I, 31J, and 39A:
 - Royalty expense deductions to Circuit City Stores West Coast, Inc. for the use of the intangibles have been disallowed.
 - Interest expense deductions to Circuit City Stores West Coast, Inc. related to debt that would not exist if the royalty and interest expense deductions of the current and prior years were not incurred have been disallowed.
 - Royalty income has been imputed from Circuit City Stores West Coast, Inc. for the use of the intangibles at the rate of 4% of net sales. In addition, the sales factor has been adjusted to include the royalty income in the calculation, per MGL c.63, s.38(f).
 - Dividend income from Circuit City Stores West Coast, Inc. considered not to have been able to have been paid without the income from royalties and interest has been eliminated. In addition, as a result of the adjustment to dividends, the dividends deduction has been adjusted, per MGL c.63, s.38(a)(1).
- For the taxable year ending 2/28/07, the tax add back amount has been adjusted to tie to the breakdown of taxes schedule, per MGL c.63, s.30.4(iii).

Attached are the workpapers concerning the above changes.

If you do not agree with the proposed adjustments, you may request an Exit Conference with this office. If you desire a conference we request you submit a written position paper to this office prior to the conference. Such paper must contain the reasons why you believe our proposed adjustments are incorrect and must be supported by the particular statute(s), regulation(s), or case law upon which you rely. The conference, if held, will be a telephonic conference.

Please note, if you do not wish to have an exit conference, or if none is held within ten (10) days of the date of this letter (1/16/10) we will issue a Notice of Intention to Assess (NIA).

Within thirty (30) days from the date of the NIA you may avail yourself of the following options:

1. If you are in agreement with the proposed changes and wish to make payment, please remit your check as directed in the NIA.
2. If you are not in agreement, totally or in part, you may pursue further appeal:
 - a. by requesting a conference with the Office of Appeals, pursuant to MGL c.62C, sec 26(b), or
 - b. you may submit a request for settlement consideration to the Office of Appeals, pursuant to MGL c.62C, sec 37C, or
 - c. you may allow the case to be assessed and subsequently file Form CA-6, Application for Abatement with our Customer Service Bureau.

The necessary appeal forms will be mailed to you upon the issuance of the NIA. Thank you for your cooperation in this audit. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at (617) 887-7771.

MICHAEL R. JOHNSON, AUDIT MANAGER

Attachments

Exhibit 8



MASSACHUSETTS DEPT. OF REVENUE
PO BOX 40
STEUBENVILLE, OH 43952

Cynthia England Audit Pittsburgh
Telephone: (617) 887-7762

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ASSESS

This is an official notice from the Massachusetts Dept. of Revenue.



CIRCUIT CITY STORES INC
PO BOX 5695
GLEN ALLEN VA 23058-5695

969C

Notice Date: January 18, 2010

Taxpayer ID Number: [REDACTED] 875

Document Number: 0480 6004 4619

Total Assessment: \$192,418.08

Response Due Date: February 17, 2010

Tax Type: Foreign Corporation

2 B 00535 v. 01/14/10 203

You are receiving this notice because... The Massachusetts Department of Revenue has conducted an audit for the periods 03/01/06 to 02/29/08. As a result of that audit, the Department has adjusted the tax reported for some or all of those periods. Please see page 3 "Assessment Detail" for a breakdown of the changes.

You may want to consider making a payment. Interest and, in some cases, penalties will continue to accrue until you pay the full amount owed. If you decide to dispute the amount assessed, you are not required to pay. You may want to pay, however, to avoid additional interest and penalty charges. If your appeal is successful, any money paid will be refunded with applicable interest. Mail your check or money order along with the Payment Coupon shown below.

Other actions you may take... If you wish to discuss this notice with the Department of Revenue's Audit Division, please call **Cynthia England** at (617) 887-7762. If someone will be representing you, you must complete and submit a Power of Attorney Form (M-2848). This form is available from several sources (see page 2 - "What Type of Assistance is Available").

If you decide to wait for a bill...  If you do not respond by February 17, 2010, you will receive a bill that reflects the tax that you owe, plus interest and any applicable penalties. Interest and penalties will continue to accrue until you pay the full amount due (see "Understanding the Notice of Intent to Assess" for more information).

CUT HERE AND RETURN THE COUPON BELOW IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED

Page 1 of 6

Please check the appropriate boxes.

Submit payment.

I am paying the following amount:

Write your Taxpayer ID # on your check or money order

\$

Make check or money order payable to:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts



CIRCUIT CITY STORES INC

Taxpayer ID Number: [REDACTED] 875

Document Number: 0480 6004 4619

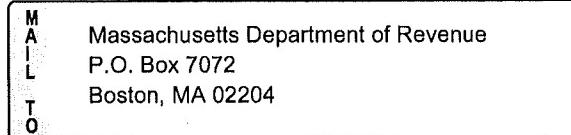
Total Assessment: \$192,418.08

Response Due Date: February 17, 2010

Tax Type: Foreign Corporation

2 B 00535 v. 01/14/10 203

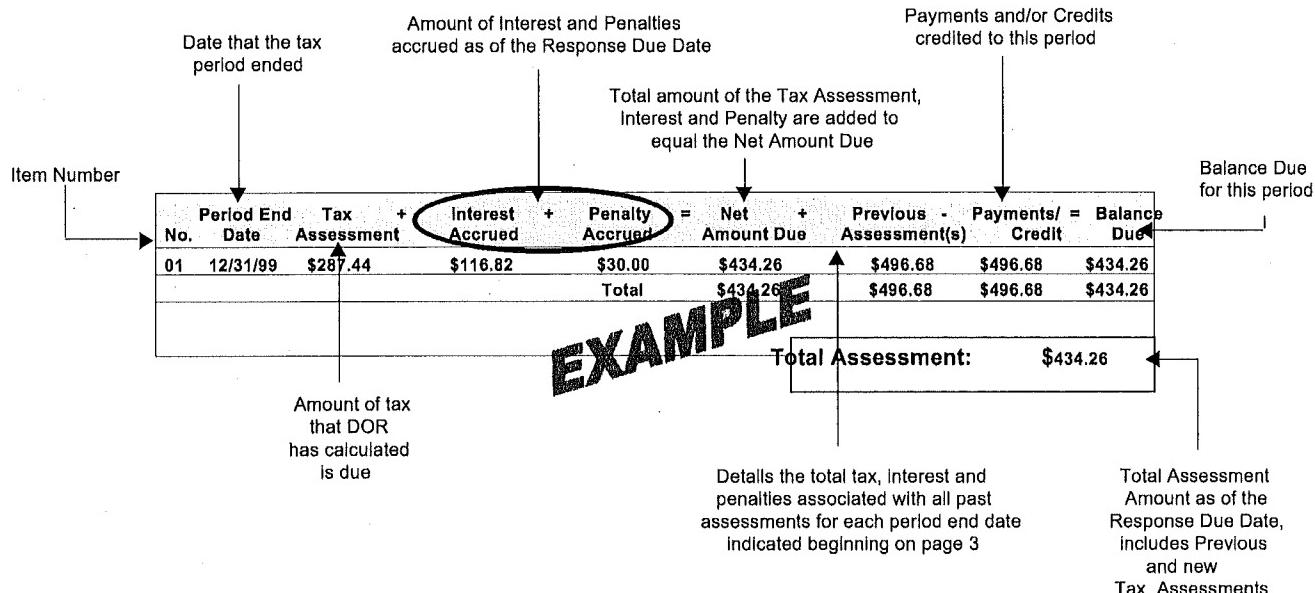
(B)
203



Address or phone number change.
See reverse side.

Guide to Understanding the Assessment Detail

The diagram shown below will help you to understand your personal assessment information. (See page 3 - "Assessment Detail" for your personal assessment information.) Note, the numbers used are for example purposes only.



What Type of Assistance is Available?



Call the Department of Revenue (DOR)

Contact the representative or Bureau listed on the front page of this notice if you have questions or need assistance.



Interactive Voice Response (IVR) 617-887-MDOR (6367) or toll-free within Massachusetts at 1-800-392-6089

Call 24 hours a day to access our automated IVR system to order forms.



Massachusetts Department of Revenue website: www.mass.gov/dor

Our Website offers a variety of information including "Your Taxpayer Bill of Rights", rulings and regulations, Power of Attorney Form (M-2848), as well as many other tax forms and publications.

You can file and pay most business taxes online through DOR's Webfile for Business program. In addition, you can view your account history, pay bills and amend business tax returns. For more information, visit our website at www.mass.gov/dor.

Page 2 of 6

Make check or money order payable to:
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Please complete only if your address or phone has changed.

Michael Richards
100 Ravine Road
Boston, MA 02204

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Four hundred and thirty four dollars and 26 cents DOLLARS

Bank of America

1234 DATE January 15, 2008 \$434.26

Michael Richard

EXPLANATION: Arrows point from the 'Street' and 'Apt No.' fields to the address line. Arrows point from the 'City', 'State', and 'Zip' fields to the 'City' field. Arrows point from the 'Home Phone' and 'Work Phone' fields to the respective lines. Arrows point from the 'Do not forget to write your Taxpayer ID Number' and 'Do not forget to sign your check' instructions to the bottom of the check stub.

Do not forget to write your Taxpayer ID Number

Do not forget to sign your check



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

Cynthia England Audit Pittsburgh
Telephone: (617) 887-7762

Taxpayer Name: Circuit City Stores Inc

Notice Date:	January 18, 2010
Taxpayer ID Number:	██████████ 875
Document Number:	0480 6004 4619
Total Assessment:	\$192,418.08
Response Due Date:	February 17, 2010
Tax Type:	Foreign Corporation

Assessment Detail for Audit Period 03/01/06 to 02/29/08.

For help understanding this section, see page 2 - "Guide to Understanding the Assessment Detail".

No.	Period End Date	Tax Assessment	+ Interest Accrued	+ Penalty Accrued	= Net Amount Due	+ Previous Assessment(s)	- Payments/ Credits	= Balance Due
1	02/28/07	\$194,119.00	\$37,278.19	\$0.00	\$231,397.19	\$88,356.68	\$88,327.00	\$231,426.87
2	02/29/08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$91,991.21	\$131,000.00	\$39,008.79CR
3				TOTAL:	\$231,397.19	\$180,347.89	\$219,327.00	

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$192,418.08

Comments:

See letter dated 1/6/10 and supporting schedules for explanation of adjustments.

Understanding the Notice of Intent to Assess

What is the Notice of Intent to Assess (NIA)?

The Notice of Intent to Assess (NIA) is not a bill. It is a notification that DOR intends to assess tax liabilities that it determines are owed to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It is also an opportunity to resolve matters before a bill is issued.

What if a payment was not credited?

If you believe that you previously made a payment for the amount shown on this Notice of Intent to Assess, contact the representative or Bureau listed on the front page of this notice.

What if I would like to appeal this notice?

If you would like to appeal, you have a right to a pre-assessment conference, to request settlement consideration, or both, with the Office of Appeals (see enclosed "Response Form"). This request must be made within 30 days of the notice date indicated on page 1 of this NIA. Nonfiling cases are not entitled to request a pre-assessment conference or settlement consideration.

What happens if I do not respond to this notice?

At the end of 30 days, you will be sent a bill called a Notice of Assessment (NOA) indicating the amount due. Interest and penalties will continue to accrue until the balance is paid in full.

How do I stop interest and penalties from continuing to accrue?

If you agree with the amount assessed, pay the amount indicated within the 30-day period given. If you are disputing the amount assessed, you may want to pay since interest and, in some cases, penalties will continue to accrue on any unpaid amount for which you are ultimately held responsible. A refund, with applicable interest, will be issued to you if your appeal is successful.

If you pay the full amount indicated on the NIA within the given 30-day period, you will receive a Notice of Assessment (NOA), with a "zero-balance", which serves as your receipt of full payment.

If you make a partial payment or do not pay the amount owed, you will receive a Notice of Assessment. The NOA will indicate the balance due, including interest and penalties. Please note that interest and penalty charges will continue to accrue until the amount owed is paid in full.

What if I cannot afford to pay the balance due?

You may make a partial payment with this notice. When you receive the NOA, there will be instructions on how to request a payment agreement with DOR.

What if this notice indicates an overassessment and/or refund?

If the Department has determined that you are due a credit and/or refund, the amounts are reflected in this Notice of Intent to Assess. At the end of the 30 day period following issuance of this NIA, your account will be adjusted and the credit/refund will be processed automatically. Therefore, if you agree with the findings, you need to take no further action. Please note, the Department may apply any credit/refund to outstanding liabilities for other tax types if those circumstances exist. Generally, you will receive a separate notification if this occurs. If you disagree with the Department's proposed credit/refund you may follow the appeal procedures (see enclosed "Response Form").

What are the most common penalties?

Under Massachusetts law, penalties are automatically imposed on late returns and late payments and when taxpayers have failed to meet other filing requirements. The five most common penalties are:

Late Return - A late return will generate a late file penalty of 1% per month on the unpaid tax. The total penalty charge cannot exceed 25% of the unpaid tax. It is calculated from the due date of the return to the date the return is filed.

Late Payment - An unpaid balance will generate a 1% penalty per month on the unpaid tax. The total penalty charge cannot exceed 25% of the unpaid tax.

Underpayment of Estimated Tax - Income and corporate taxpayers who fail to pay the required amount of tax by the proper due date through estimated and/or withholding payments may be subject to this addition to tax. Individuals whose liabilities exceed \$200 are required to make estimated payments equal to 80% of their current year's tax liabilities or 100% of their prior year's tax liabilities. Corporations whose liabilities exceed \$1000 for any taxable year are required to make estimated tax payments equal to 90% of the current year's tax or 100% of the prior year's tax.

Federal Change Non-Compliance Penalty - If you are audited by the IRS, you must report the changes affecting your Massachusetts taxable income to the Department of Revenue within one year from the date of the federal change determination and pay any additional tax, plus interest. Note: If you do not show reasonable cause for failure to comply, an additional penalty of \$100 or ten percent of the additional tax due whichever is smaller will be imposed.

Failure to File; G.L. Ch.62C Sec. 28 - If you failed to file a required return, DOR may determine the tax due according to the best information available. A penalty may be assessed at not more than double the amount so determined.

How is interest accrued?

Effective July 1, 2003, the interest rate on overpayments is the Federal short-term rate plus two percentage points, simple interest. The rate for underpayments is the Federal short-term rate plus four percentage points, compounded daily. Interest will accrue on unpaid interest and penalties as well as on unpaid tax. It is calculated on:

- 1) unpaid failure-to-file penalties and underpayment of estimated tax penalties starting on the due date through the date of full payment; and
- 2) unpaid failure-to-pay penalties starting on the 31st day after the date of the NOA and continuing to the date of full payment.

Additional information on interest and penalties

To obtain additional information on interest and penalty charges, contact the Customer Service Bureau (CSB) at 617-887-MDOR (6367) or toll-free in Massachusetts at 1-800-392-6089. You may also obtain rate information on our website at www.mass.gov/dor - Forms and Publications - Taxpayer Advisory Bulletin.



MASSACHUSETTS DEPT. OF REVENUE
PO BOX 40
STEUBENVILLE, OH 43952
Cynthia England Audit Pittsburgh
Telephone: (617) 887-7762

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ASSESS
This is an official notice from the Massachusetts Dept. of Revenue.

Notice Date: January 18, 2010

Taxpayer ID Number: [REDACTED] 875
Document Number: 0480 6004 4619
Total Assessment: \$192,418.08
Response Due Date: February 17, 2010
Tax Type: Foreign Corporation

2 B 00535v 01/14/10 203

CIRCUIT CITY STORES INC
PO BOX 5695
GLEN ALLEN VA 23058-5695

969C

RESPONSE FORM

If you have general questions about this Notice of Intent to Assess . . . If what you are seeking is a general discussion of your case or if you want to provide additional information, please contact the representative or Bureau listed above by **FEBRUARY 17, 2010**.

If you wish to appeal this Notice of Intent to Assess . . . The Office of Appeals is a separate office within the Department of Revenue that: (1) conducts conferences relating to taxpayer appeals of proposed tax assessments; and (2) settles tax disputes when there is a factual or legal issue in dispute. If you wish to appeal this Notice of Intent to Assess, you may request a conference to dispute the proposed assessment pursuant to G.L. Ch. 62C, Sec. 26(b), request settlement consideration pursuant to G.L. Ch. 62C, Sec. 37C, or both, with the Office of Appeals.

If you wish to request a pre-assessment conference and/or settlement consideration, please complete the appropriate section of the Response Form below and submit together with a statement of facts and legal issues in dispute, along with any supporting documentation. Conferences may be conducted by telephone. Please indicate below a telephone number where you can be contacted regarding your appeal and/or for your telephonic conference.

Deadline for filing an appeal . . . You must submit the Response Form and supporting documentation to the address listed in the "Mail To" box on the Response Form. The Response Form must be received by the Department of Revenue by **FEBRUARY 17, 2010** or be postmarked within 25 days of the Notice Date in order for your appeal to be timely filed.

If you decide to wait for a bill . . . If you do not respond by **FEBRUARY 17, 2010**, you will receive a bill that reflects the tax that you owe, plus interest and any applicable penalties. Interest and penalties will continue to accrue until you pay the full amount due (see "Understanding the Notice of Intent to Assess" for more information).

CAUTION

CUT HERE AND RETURN THE FORM BELOW IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED

Page 5 of 6

If you wish to appeal please mail this Response Form with all written correspondence.

Required information for appeals:

Taxpayer Name _____

Street _____ Apt No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please check if this is a new address.

Contact Person _____

Contact Phone Number () _____

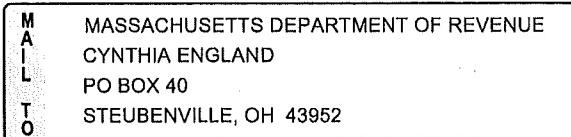


CIRCUIT CITY STORES INC

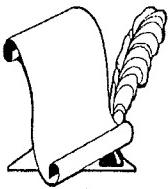
Notice Date: January 18, 2010

Taxpayer ID Number: [REDACTED] 875
Document Number: 0480 6004 4619
Total Assessment: \$192,418.08
Response Due Date: February 17, 2010
Tax Type: Foreign Corporation

2 B 00535v 01/14/10 203



(B)



Taxpayer Bill of Rights

DOF must be objective, impartial, professional and ethical in its administration of the tax laws; any information that you as a taxpayer provide to the Department will be handled with the utmost confidentiality and professionalism.

DOF must maintain a Problem Resolution Office and an Office of Internal Affairs to safeguard taxpayers' rights.

DOF may not establish or enforce individual collection goals or collection quotas for its employees.

If you are unable to satisfy a tax liability in full, the Commissioner of Revenue may enter into a payment agreement if the Commissioner determines it will facilitate collection of the tax.

You may obtain representation at any point in your dealings with the Department.

You may be entitled to appeal any DOF decision regarding your tax liability. DOF is obligated to make abatement decisions as promptly as possible and to issue any refunds resulting from abatement decisions within 30 days of such decisions.

You will not be subject to statutory penalties if you make a mistake because you relied on erroneous written advice from DOF representatives acting in their official capacities.

You can find more comprehensive details on your rights as a taxpayer in "A Guide to the Department of Revenue: Your Taxpayer Bill of Rights". To obtain a copy, visit our website at www.mass.gov/dor or call 617-887-MDOR (6367) or toll-free in Massachusetts at 1-800-392-6089.

Exhibit 9



MASSACHUSETTS DEPT. OF REVENUE
PO BOX 7010
BOSTON, MA 02204
Customer Service Bureau
Telephone: (617) 887-6367
www.mass.gov/dor

NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT

This is an official notice from the Massachusetts Dept. of Revenue.



CIRCUIT CITY STORES INC
PO BOX 5695
GLEN ALLEN VA 23058-5695

400C

Notice Date: February 25, 2010

Taxpayer ID Number: [REDACTED] 875
Bill Number: 0410 2143 9572
Total Amount Due: \$216,042.25
Payment Due Date: March 27, 2010
Tax Type: Corporation Foreign

2 B 000007 v. 02/25/10 218

You are receiving this Notice of Assessment because ...

The records of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue indicate that you have an outstanding liability of **\$216,042.25** that you owe to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This amount includes tax, interest and penalties. Interest and penalties will continue to accrue until the balance is paid in full (see page 4 for more information). To avoid additional interest and penalty charges, you must pay the total amount due by **March 27, 2010**.

Actions you should take...

Submit Payment/Dispute the Assessment - Make your payment electronically via our website, make a phone payment with an agent at the number listed above, or mail your payment and the coupon shown below. Include your ID # on your check. If you decide to dispute the assessment, you are not required to pay but may want to in order to avoid additional charges. If your appeal is successful, any money paid will be refunded with applicable interest.
Note: WFB participants can dispute tax and/or penalty online.

Enter into a payment agreement - Visit our website to arrange for monthly payments or call our automated telephone system at (617)887-MDOR (6367) or toll-free in Massachusetts at 1-800-392-6089. For amounts over \$5000 call 617-887-6400.

Did you Know ...

You can file and pay most business taxes online through DOR's Webfile for Business program. In addition, you can view your account history, pay bills and amend business tax returns. For more information, visit our website at <http://www.mass.gov/dor>.



WEBFILE FOR BUSINESS
<http://www.mass.gov/dor>



Interest and penalties will continue to accrue until you pay the full amount.

Corporate Efile mandate: Corporations with more than \$100,000 in gross receipts, sales, or income from all sources must transmit all returns, documents and tax payments using electronic means as of January 1, 2005.

Page 1 of 4



- CUT HERE AND RETURN THE COUPON BELOW IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED -

Your payment must be postmarked by March 27, 2010

Taxpayer ID Number: [REDACTED] 875
Bill Number: 0410 2143 9572
Payment Due Date: March 27, 2010
Total Amount Due: \$216,042.25

2 B 000007 v. 02/25/10 218

CIRCUIT CITY STORES INC
PO BOX 5695
GLEN ALLEN VA 23058-5695

400C

Enter Amount Enclosed

\$

Write your Taxpayer ID # on your check or money order and make it payable to:
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Please complete only if your address or phone has changed.
Street _____ Apt No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____

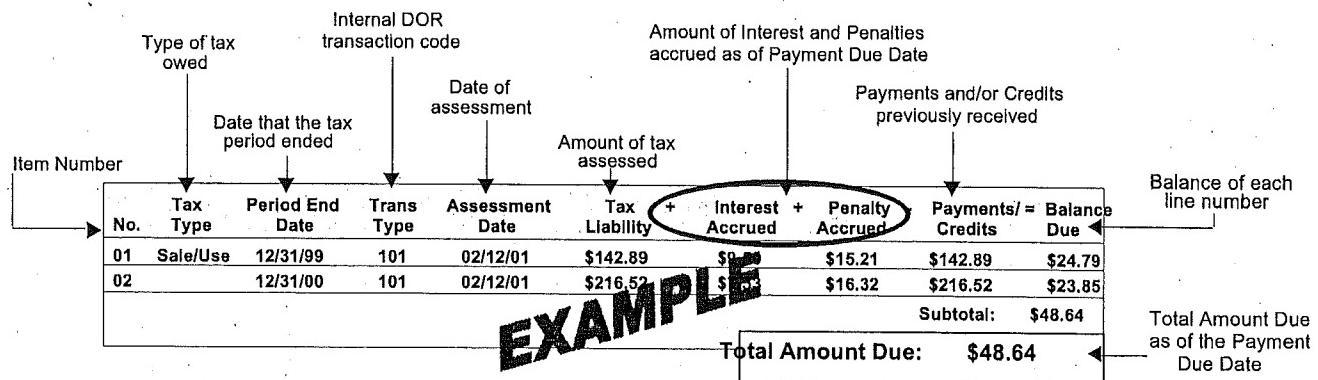
M A Massachusetts Department of Revenue
L P. O. Box 7065
T Boston, MA 02204-7065
O

(B)
218

540493875218041021439572000216042255

Guide to Understanding the Assessment Detail

The diagram shown below will help you to understand your personal assessment information. (See page 3 - "Details of What You Owe" for your personal assessment information.) Note, the numbers used are for example purposes only.



*Most Common Tax Types

ESTATE.....Estate Tax
SALE/USE.....Sales Use Tax
MEALS.....Meals Tax

INCOME.....Individual Income Tax
ROOM OCC.....Room Occupancy Tax
WITH INC.....Withholding Tax

CORP DOM.....Domestic Corporation
CORP FOR.....Foreign Corporation
FIDO.....Fiduciary Income

What Type of Assistance is Available?



Massachusetts Department of Revenue
website: <http://www.mass.gov/dor>

Our Website offers a variety of information and electronic payment options including "Your Taxpayer Bill of Rights", rulings and regulations, Form CA-6, Application for Abatement/Amended Return, as well as many other tax forms and publications.



Interactive Voice Response (IVR)
617-887-MDOR (6367) or toll-free within Massachusetts at 1-800-392-6089

Call 24 hours a day to access our automated IVR system to order forms, enter a small payment agreement or check the status of your refund.



Call the Department of Revenue (DOR)

Contact the representative or Bureau listed on the front page of this notice if you have questions or need assistance.

Page 2 of 4

Make check or money order payable to:
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Michael Richards
100 Ravine Road
Boston, MA 02204

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Commonwealth of Massachusetts

One Thousand and 00/100

Bank of America

DATE 02/25/10

\$1000.00 DOLLARS

Michael Richards

[Signature]

EXAMPLE is stamped across the check stub.

Do not forget to write your
Taxpayer ID Number

Do not forget to
sign your check



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
Customer Service Bureau
Telephone: (617) 887-6367

Taxpayer Name: Circuit City Stores Inc

Notice Date: February 25, 2010
Taxpayer ID Number: [REDACTED] 875
Bill Number: 0410 2143 9572
Total Amount Due: \$216,042.25
Payment Due Date: March 27, 2010
Tax Type: Corporation Foreign

Details of What You Owe

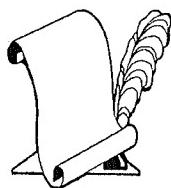
For help understanding this section, see page 2 - "Guide to Understanding the Assessment Detail".

No.	Tax Type*	Period End Date	Trans Type	Assessment Date	Tax Liability	+	Interest Accrued	+	Penalty Accrued	-	Payments/Credits	=	Balance Due
1	CORP FOR	02/28/07	700	02/24/10	\$194,119		\$21,908.83		\$0.00		\$200.00		\$215,827.83
2		02/28/07	900	11/15/07	\$0.00		\$7.21		\$100.00		\$0.00		\$107.21
3		02/28/07	900	11/15/07	\$0.00		\$7.21		\$100.00		\$0.00		\$107.21
4												Subtotal:	\$216,042.25

* See explanation of the Most Common Tax Types on page 2.

Recent payments may not be reflected.

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$216,042.25



Taxpayer Bill of Rights

DOR must be objective, impartial, professional and ethical in its administration of the tax laws; any information that you as a taxpayer provide to the Department will be handled with the utmost confidentiality and professionalism.

DOR must maintain a Problem Resolution Office and an Office of Internal Affairs to safeguard taxpayers' rights.

DOR may not establish or enforce individual collection goals or collection quotas for its employees.

If you are unable to satisfy a tax liability in full, the Commissioner of Revenue may enter into a payment agreement if the Commissioner determines it will facilitate collection of the tax.

You may obtain representation at any point in your dealings with the Department.

You are entitled to appeal any DOR decision regarding your tax liability. DOR is obligated to make abatement decisions as promptly as possible and to issue any refunds resulting from abatement decisions within 30 days of such decisions.

You will not be subject to statutory penalties if you make a mistake because you relied on erroneous written advice from DOR representatives acting in their official capacities.

You can find more comprehensive details on your rights as a taxpayer in "A Guide to the Department of Revenue: Your Taxpayer Bill of Rights". To obtain a copy, visit our website at www.mass.gov/dor or call 617-887-MDOR (6367) or toll-free in Massachusetts 1-800-392-6089.

Understanding the Notice of Assessment

What is the Notice of Assessment?

The Notice of Assessment (NOA) is a bill that is sent when DOR determines you owe a tax liability to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The liability may be the result of an audit, a late and/or unpaid return or an error on a return.

What if a payment was not credited?

If you believe that you previously made a payment for the amount shown on this Notice of Assessment, contact the representative or Bureau listed on the front page of this notice. WFB users can check payments online.

What if I disagree with this notice or would like to appeal?

You may appeal by filing an Application for Abatement (Form CA6) within the time allowed for making an application. WFB users can file appeals for tax or penalty via the amend section of our online program. This is the fastest means of resolving your issue. An online income tax abatement application will be available in the fall of 2004. Please contact the Customer Service Bureau at (617) 887-6367 or toll-free in Mass. At 1-800-392-6089 with any questions.

Should I pay even if I am disputing this assessment?

You are not obligated to pay an amount that you are disputing. However, you may want to pay since interest and, in some cases, penalties will continue to accrue on any unpaid amount for which you are ultimately held responsible. A refund resulting from an abatement will include interest computed from the date a complete application was filed.

What if I do not have the money to pay?

If you cannot pay the full amount that you owe, you may be able to pay the total liability through monthly installments or credit card. To request a payment agreement for amounts under \$5,000, visit our website or call 617-887-MDOR (6367) or toll-free in Massachusetts at 1-800-392-6089. For amounts over \$5,000, call 617-887-6400.

Note: DOR may refuse to allow a payment agreement if a taxpayer has a history of delinquency; has the resources to settle the debt immediately; or if the agreement jeopardizes the ultimate collection of the tax due.

What happens if I do not respond to this notice?

If you do not pay the amount due and do not dispute the assessment by filing an application for abatement, DOR will pursue full payment using a series of collection tools up to and including your name being published on our website.

What are the most common penalties?

Under Massachusetts law, penalties are automatically imposed on late returns and late payments and when taxpayers have failed to meet other filing requirements. The four most common penalties are:

Late Return - A late return will generate a late file penalty of 1% per month on the unpaid tax. The total penalty charge cannot exceed 25% of the unpaid tax. It is calculated from the due date of the return to the date the return is filed.

Late Payment - An unpaid balance will generate a 1% penalty per month on the unpaid tax. The total penalty charge cannot exceed 25% of the unpaid tax.

Underpayment of Estimated Tax - Income and corporate taxpayers who fail to pay the required amount of tax by the proper due date through estimated and/or withholding payments may be subject to this addition to tax. Individuals whose liabilities exceed \$200, \$400 for tax year beginning 01/01/05, are required to make estimated payments equal to 80% of their current year's tax liabilities or 100% of their prior year's tax liabilities. Corporations whose liabilities exceed \$1000 for any taxable year are required to make estimated tax payments equal to 90% of the current year's tax or 100% of the prior year's tax.

Penalty for failure to Comply with Efile Mandate:

A penalty of \$100 for each payment/extension payment (trans type 92A) or return/extension filing (92B) not submitted electronically when required.

How is interest accrued?

Effective July 1, 2003, the interest rate on overpayments is the Federal short-term rate plus two percentage points, simple interest. The rate for underpayments is the Federal short-term rate plus four percentage points, compounded daily. Interest will accrue on unpaid interest and penalties as well as on unpaid tax. It is calculated on:

- 1) unpaid failure-to-file penalties and underpayment of estimated tax penalties starting on the due date through the date of full payment; and
- 2) unpaid failure-to-pay penalties starting on the 31st day after the date of the NOA and continuing to the date of full payment.

Additional information on interest and penalties

To obtain additional information on interest and penalty charges, contact the Customer Service Bureau (CSB) at 617-887-MDOR (6367) or toll-free in Massachusetts at 1-800-392-6089. You may also obtain rate information on our website at <http://www.mass.gov/dor> - Forms and Publications - Taxpayer Advisory Bulletin or see our online tax guide.